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The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" If it is useful, as is said by Mr. Dorai Raja, I am ready to supply it."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know if the Government make distinction between political prisoners and ordinary prisoners in the matter of breach of discipline ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Government make no such distinction."

Hunger-strike in jails from March to October 1930.

*5 Q.—Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what was the number of prisoners that resorted to hunger-strike from March to October 1930 ;

(b) the reason for such hunger-strike ;

(c) the jails in which such hunger-strike took place ;

(d) the class of prisoners amongst whom hunger-strike was resorted to ;

(e) the duration of each strike ; and

(f) how each case ended ?

A.—The information has been called for.

Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether information is not available at least from one jail, the Madras Penitentiary ?

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" With reference to that, I know there was one case of hunger-strike lasting for two days or so. But the question refers to hunger-strikes in the jails throughout the Presidency."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Sir, papers publish that apologies have been received from so and so, and so and so. And so is it not desirable . . . "

The hon. the President :—" Order, order."

Settlement

Resettlement of the Godavaris and Kistna districts.

*6 Q.—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether Government have passed or decided to pass orders giving effect to the recommendations of the Special Settlement Officer and the Board of Revenue concerning the resettlement in the East and West Godavari districts and the Kistna district ?

A.—In G.O. No. 405, Revenue, dated 26th February 1929, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press, the Government passed orders on those proposals of the Special Settlement Officer which related to matters other than the revision of the rates of assessment and water cess. The revision of these rates is still under the consideration of the Government.

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Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether Government propose to pass orders before the next meeting of the Council ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" It is not proposed to pass orders before the next meeting of the Council."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Will not the land revenue be due for collection before that time ? In what month is it due ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I must ask for the notice of the question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" If the assessments are to be increased before the next meeting of the Council in January, will the Government allow the House an opportunity to discuss the matter before orders are passed by Government."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I cannot give such an assurance."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Am I to understand that the revised rates will not come into operation this year ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I cannot give any information on that point."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know when exactly Government will pass orders ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I cannot say exactly. It depends partly when the next meeting of the Council takes place."

Veterinary

Steps taken to check the spread of certain cattle diseases.

* 7 *Q.*—Swami A. S. Sahajanandam : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether Government have taken any steps to check the spreading of diseases such as ' vakai ', ' kallai ', etc., to the cattle and, if so, what steps ?

A.—Cattle are inoculated against Rinderpest (vakai). Two methods of inoculation are in force, the serum-alone method which gives temporary immunity and the serum-simultaneous method which gives more or less lasting immunity. The former method is generally adopted in areas where the provisions of the Madras Cattle Disease Act are enforced. The latter is now used on a more extensive scale in other cases and, to enable the district officers to devote more time to it, five additional circles were formed during 1929–30.

A good deal of propaganda work is done by means of lantern lectures and by the distribution of leaflets on most of the important cattle diseases in the Presidency.

The opening of hospitals and dispensaries in suitable centres and the employment of touring assistants are also in pursuance of the policy of Government to make veterinary relief available to the ryots and cattle owners in the Presidency.